

I think that CALEA is a bad idea, and will only make the situation worse. For one, it will create a market for strong encrypted phone calls that will be unbreakable by Law Enforcement. It will also stifle innovation by making it harder for developers of new technology to test and deploy their system.

If CALEA must go into effect, it should only apply to commercial providers of VoIP services that allow users to connect to any PSTN. So as to minimize the impact on innovation, it should only apply to large networks that can easily afford the overhead. I believe the VoIP provider should have at least one million paying customers before CALEA should apply. Furthermore, the cost should not be passed on to the consumer. After all, they didn't do anything wrong.

If CALEA is used to catch a criminal, and that person is found guilty, then they should pay.